

## CLAIMS

1 1. A peer-to-peer network of devices, said peer-to-peer network comprising:  
2 a plurality of network devices locatable in two or more zones and connected  
3 together over a digital network. data being streamed over said digital network. each  
4 of said network devices including one or more data communication units;  
5 at least two said network devices including a receiving unit, said at least two  
6 devices being located in different ones of said zones. each of said receiving units  
7 controlling local reception of data from said data stream: and  
8 at least two said network devices including a source unit. each said source  
9 unit selectively providing data to said data stream,  
10 wherein a person at a first network device may select to receive data from a  
11 first source unit while a second person at a second network device is receiving data  
12 from a second source unit.

1 2. A peer-to-peer network as in claim 1, wherein the digital network further  
2 comprises:  
3 at least one network device including an intercom unit in communication  
4 with receiving units, said intercom unit providing intercom, paging and station  
5 monitoring functions.

1 3. A peer-to-peer network as in claim 2, wherein at least one source unit is an  
2 audio source unit injecting audio data into the data stream.

1 4. A peer-to-peer network as in claim 3, wherein at least one receiver unit is an  
2 audio receiver extracting audio data from the data stream. said audio data being  
3 converted to sound and provided to the zone in which said audio receiver is located.

1 5. A peer-to-peer network as in claim 4, wherein at least one of the network  
2 devices is a room station, each said room station including an audio source unit, an  
3 audio receiver unit and an intercom unit.

1 6. A peer-to-peer network as in claim 5, wherein at least one of the network  
2 devices is a door station, each said door station including an audio receiver unit and  
3 an intercom unit.

1 7. A peer-to-peer network as in claim 5, wherein at least one of the network  
2 devices is a dual tuner, each said dual tuner including two audio receiver units.

1 8. A peer-to-peer network as in claim 5, wherein each of said network devices  
2 is attached to a central hub and is assigned a unique hub address.

1 9. A peer-to-peer network as in claim 8, wherein sound volume is set at each  
2 said audio receiver unit independent of sound volume settings at other said audio  
3 receiver units.

1 10. A peer-to-peer network as in claim 8, wherein sound tone is set at each said  
2 audio receiver unit independent of sound tone settings at other said audio receiver  
3 units.

1 11. A peer-to-peer network as in claim 8, including a plurality of audio source  
2 units each providing audio data from one of a plurality of audio sources.

1 12. A peer-to-peer network as in claim 11, wherein said plurality of audio  
2 sources includes a radio tuner, a compact disc player, a mini-disc player, a  
3 microphone, a cassette player and a compressed audio data source and, wherein any  
4 audio receiver unit may select audio data from any audio source unit independent of  
5 other said audio receiver units

1 13. A peer-to-peer network as in claim 11, wherein a plurality of said network  
2 devices include an interactive display displaying status information, commands

3 being provided to units connected to said network through each said interactive  
4 display.

1 14. A peer-to-peer network as in claim 13, wherein said interactive display  
2 provides a menu of said commands.

1 15. A peer-to-peer network as in claim 13, wherein at least one interactive  
2 display displays time information.

1 16. A peer-to-peer network as in claim 13, wherein ones of said network devices  
2 may selectively disable issuance of commands from other ones of said network  
3 devices.

1 17. A peer-to-peer network as in claim 13, wherein at least one network device  
2 includes a timer, said timer being able to initiate execution of selected commands.

1 18. A peer-to-peer network as in claim 11, wherein said digital network further  
2 includes a communication port selectively communicating with devices external to  
3 said digital network.

1 19. A communication and entertainment network, said communication and  
2 entertainment network comprising:

3 a plurality of peer-to-peer network devices attached to a central hub and  
4 assigned a unique hub address, each of said network devices being locatable in one  
5 of two or more zones, each of said network devices including one or more data  
6 communication units data being streamed over said central hub between connected  
7 devices;

8 at least two said network devices including a receiving unit, said at least two  
9 devices being located in different ones of said zones, each of said receiving units  
10 controlling local reception of data from said data stream;

11           at least one network device including an intercom unit in communication  
12 with receiving units, said intercom unit providing intercom, paging and station  
13 monitoring functions;

14           at least two said network devices including a source unit, each said source  
15 unit selectively providing data to said data stream,

16           wherein a person at a first network device may select to receive data from a  
17 first source unit while a second person at a second network device is receiving data  
18 from a second source unit.

1       20.    A communication and entertainment network as in claim 19, wherein at least  
2 one source unit is an audio source unit injecting audio data into the data stream.

1       21.    A communication and entertainment network as in claim 20, wherein at least  
2 one receiver unit is an audio receiver extracting audio data from the data stream, said  
3 audio data being converted to sound and provided to the zone in which said audio  
4 receiver is located.

1       22.    A communication and entertainment network as in claim 21, wherein at least  
2 one of the network devices is a room station, each said room station including an  
3 audio source unit, an audio receiver unit and an intercom unit.

1       23.    A communication and entertainment network as in claim 22, wherein at least  
2 one of the network devices is a door station, each said door station including an  
3 audio receiver unit and an intercom unit.

1       24.    A communication and entertainment network as in claim 22, wherein at least  
2 one of the network devices is a dual tuner, each said dual tuner including two audio  
3 receiver units.

1 25. A communication and entertainment network as in claim 21, wherein sound  
2 volume is set at each said audio receiver independent of sound volume settings at  
3 other said audio receiver units.

1 26. A communication and entertainment network as in claim 21, wherein sound  
2 tone is set at each said audio receiver independent of sound tone settings at other  
3 said audio receiver units.

1 27. A communication and entertainment network as in claim 21, including a  
2 plurality of audio source units each providing audio data from one of a plurality of  
3 audio sources.

1 28. A communication and entertainment network as in claim 27, wherein said  
2 plurality of audio sources includes a radio tuner, a compact disc player, a mini-disc  
3 player, a microphone, a cassette player and a compressed audio data source and,  
4 wherein any audio receiver unit may select audio data from any audio source unit  
5 independent of other said audio receiver units.

1 29. A communication and entertainment network as in claim 27, wherein a  
2 plurality of said network devices include an interactive display displaying status  
3 information, commands being provided to units connected to said network through  
4 each said interactive display.

1 30. A communication and entertainment network as in claim 29, wherein said  
2 interactive display provides a menu of said commands, and wherein at least one  
3 interactive display displays time information.

1 31. A communication and entertainment network as in claim 29, wherein ones of  
2 said network devices may selectively disable issuance of commands from other ones  
3 of said network devices.

7261-68779-30

1 32. A communication and entertainment network as in claim 29, wherein at least  
2 one network device includes a timer, said timer being able to initiate execution of  
3 selected commands.

1 33. A communication and entertainment network as in claim 19, wherein said  
2 digital network further includes a communication port selectively communicating  
3 with devices external to said digital network.